

Applicant: Falke et al.
Serial No.: 10/046,808
Group Art Unit: 1711

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as indicated:

1. (Currently Amended) A process for the preparation of low-odor flexible polyurethane foams comprising reacting organic and/or modified organic polyisocyanates (a) with a polyetherol mixture (b) and, optionally, further compounds (c) having hydrogen atoms reactive toward isocyanates, in the presence of water and/or other blowing agents (d), catalysts (e), flameproofing agents (f) and, optionally, further assistants and additives (g), wherein the polyetherol mixture (b) comprises

b1) at least one difunctional to octafunctional polyetherol based on ethylene oxide and, optionally, based on propylene oxide and/or butylene oxide, the polyetherol (b1) having an ethylene oxide content of at least 30% by weight, based on the total amount of alkylene oxide used in the polyetherol (b1), and an OH number of from 20 to 200 mg KOH/g, and used in an amount of at least 50% by weight, based on the total weight of the polyetherol mixture (b), and

b2) at least one polyetherol based on propylene oxide and/or butylene oxide and having an OH number greater than 20 mg KOH/g, wherein the polyetherol (b2) is optionally based on ethylene oxide, the ethylene oxide content being less than 30% by weight, based on the total amount of alkylene oxide used in the polyetherol (b2), and used in an amount of less than 30% by weight, based on the total weight of the polyetherol mixture (b), and

wherein foaming is effected in an index range of less than 150, and the catalyst comprises at least one catalyst supporting the polyisocyanurate reaction.

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2. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ethylene oxide content of the polyetherol (b1) is more than 60% by weight, based on the total amount of alkylene oxide used in the polyetherol (b1).

3. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyetherol (b1) has more than 30% of primary OH groups.

4-5. Cancelled.

6. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein water is used as blowing agent (d) in amounts of from 1 to 10% by weight, based on the total weight of the components (b) to (g).

7. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst (e) used is an alkali metal salt and/or alkaline earth metal salt.

8. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the catalyst (e) used is potassium acetate.

9. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flameproofing agents (f) are halogen-free.

10. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the flameproofing agents (f) used are melamine and, optionally, expanded graphite.

11. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the organic and/or modified organic polyisocyanates (a) comprise tolylene diisocyanate, mixtures of diphenylmethane diisocyanate isomers, mixtures of diphenylmethane diisocyanate and

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polyphenylpolymethylene polyisocyanate or tolylene diisocyanate with diphenylmethane diisocyanate and/or polyphenylpolymethylene polyisocyanate.

12. (Currently Amended) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the organic and/or modified organic polyisocyanates (a) comprise NCO-containing prepolymers formed from the reaction of the isocyanates (a) with the polyetherol mixture ~~polyetherols~~ (b) and, optionally, components (c) and/or (d).

13. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the foaming is effected in an index range of from 50 to 150.

14. (Previously Presented) A low-odor flexible polyurethane foam, which is prepared according to the process as claimed in any of claims 1 to 13.

15. Canceled

16. (Previously Presented) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein water is used as blowing agent (d) in amounts of from 1 to 5 % by weight, based on the total weight of the components (b) to (g).